Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

condition. The shipping is free from all contagion and the regular line steamships are kept in an excellent sanitary condition.

Respectfully, yours, SAML. H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PARAGUAY.

Peculiar disease at Asuncion.

MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, *September 12, 1899.*

SIR: Inclosed herewith is a copy of a letter from United States Consul John N. Ruffin, at Asuncion, Paraguay, referring to the epidemic prevailing in that city.

Respectfully, yours, WILLIAM R. FINCH.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

ASUNCION, PARAGUAY, *September 5, 1899.*

SIR: There is a kind of disease existing here said to be peculiar to Paraguay. It seems that the physicians do not know what it is. It kills in forty-eight hours; if not, after that time there is hope. It is said to take the glands; that is causes them to swell. It seems to have its origin in filth, and began in the soldier barracks which are said to be exceedingly filthy. At present a bacteriological analysis is being made. In a few days it is hoped a scientific opinion will be reached. Schools have been dismissed to-day to be cleaned and painted inside; the Government buildings are undergoing the same process. The soldiers from that part of the barracks which was affected will be sent outside the city. The hospital papers announce 11 sick soldiers, 8 convalescing and 3 still very low.

Don't think the disease will develop or increase. Daily reports are being made. There is as yet no cause for alarm. Should there be any, will telegraph.

Yours, truly, JOHN N. RUFFIN,
United States Consul.

NOTE.—Will the *Wilmington* come up here? Will you come with the *Wilmington*?

Hon. WM. R. FITCH, *United States Minister, Montevideo.*

RUSSIA.

Investigation as to the nature of the disease at Kolobovka.

ST. PETERSBURG, *September 29, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy and translation of an official communication giving an account of a medical conference held on September 3–15 last to determine the nature of the malady which recently broke out in the village of Kolobovka, government of Astrakhan, and also a copy and translation of a telegram from His Highness Prince Alexander of Oldenberg, dated September 12–24 last, concerning the sanitary condition of that village. These communications were sent to this embassy from the imperial foreign office in notes dated September 10–22 and September 14–26, respectively.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

HERBERT H. D. PEIRCE,
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Translation.—Translation of a communication published in the supplement to No. 196 of the Official Messenger dated September 9 (21), 1899.]

In continuation of the communication published by the commission organized by the supreme command for taking measures against the plague on August 24 last, in No. 184 of the Official Messenger, it is announced that on September 3 there took place a medicalscientific conference, called to examine the data in regard to the malady which broke out in the borough of Kolobovka, district of Tsarew, province of Astrakhan.

At this conference the following persons took part:

Privy Counsellor Paschoutine, president of the council of medicine, and director of the military academy of medicine; the privy counsellors, Mr. Remmert and Mr. Koudrine; the privy counsellors, Soutouguine, Lazarevitch, Ragozine, Ovsiannikow, Merzievsky, and Sklifassovsky; the counsellors of state, Danilevsky, Loukianow, and Schidlovsky, members of the medical board; Professor Vinogradow, of the military academy of medicine; the Privy Counsellor Beliaiew, and the Counsellor of State Raptchevsky, permanent members of the medico-scientific military committee.

Upon the question examined by this conference, its members were divided as follows: The minority (Messrs. Remmert, Lazarevitch, Mierzievsky, Skilfassovsky, Loukianow, and Raptchevsky), taking into consideration all the facts at the disposition of the conference, and deciding upon the nature of the malady from an epidemiological, clinical, pathological, anatomical, and bacteriological point of view, reached the conclusion that the malady which broke out in the bougrade of Kolobovka, and which may, at the present time, be considered as having ceased entirely, is recognized as an acute epidemic disease, similar in so far as it is permissible to conclude from the investigations made upon the spot, to that type of the bubonic plague which is pneumonic in its nature.

The majority (Messrs. Paschoutine, Kondrine, Soutouguine, Beliaiew, Ragozine, Ovsiannikow, Vinagradow, Danilewsky, and Schidlovsky), expressed the conviction that the data bearing upon the facts, which were submitted to the examination of the conference were entirely insufficient, not only to establish the fact that the disease, actually at an end in the above-mentioned borough, was the plague, but also to establish, with scientific accuracy, the nature of the cases of illness which occurred.

Inasmuch as, from what appears above, all the members of the conference did not deem it possible to express, upon the basis of the data submitted to their examination, a definite opinion upon the cases of the illness in question, the conference decided to send to Kolobovka, to secure additional information, 2 members of the conference, Dr. Vinogradow, professor of pathological anatomy, and Dr. Raptchevsky, chief of the bacteriological laboratory of the health office of the army, instructing them to study the conditions in which the disease in question was produced and maintained, and authorizing them in case they should deem it necessary to have in addition the services of a specialist in hygiene, to invite for this purpose Professor Schidlowsky, the incumbent of the chair of hygiene in the military academy of medicine. To these physicians, sent to the borough of Kolobovka, the conference entrusted the study of the matter in all its details, in collaboration with the specialists sent by the president of the commission and with those persons who were upon the spot at the time of the outbreak of the disease.

Upon their return to St. Petersburg, the physicians sent to Kolobovka will, with the assistance of Professor Levine, make chemical analyses in order to elucidate the nature of the disease. The results of these investigations and the definitive conclusions will be communicated to the conference, that it may be able to communicate the same to the commission instituted by supreme command for taking measures against the plague.

[Translation.—Translation of a telegram, dated at Ramone, September 12 (24), 1899, from his highness the president of the commission instituted by supreme command to take measures against the plague.]

After a thorough disinfection was completed and the infected houses burned, the military cordon around Kolobovka was to-day done away with, and the village is considered absolutely safe. The sanitary condition of Samara and of the Volga River is also completely satisfactory.

I invite General Sakharoff to recall the troops, with the exception of the detachments left temporarily at Tsarew and Tsaritsyne.

PRINCE ALEXANDER OF OLDENBERG.